



After-school care facility at 41. Grundschule 'Elbtalkinder' primary school

## Brief concept

After-school care facility at 41. Grundschule Elbtalkinder primary school

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# Introducing the 'Elbtalkinder' after-school care facility



We are a social-education facility run by the child and youth welfare services in compliance with our duty to provide education and care under Section 22a of Vol. VIII of the German Social Code. We consider ourselves a child-care facility that supplements and supports families. Having our own educational mandate, we co-operate closely with the primary school. Once lessons finish for the day, the children are free to move around the facility as they wish. Our after-school care facility is located in the district of Mickten, in Dresden's north. The proximity to the Elbe River gives the children an opportunity to experience nature within walking distance.

Our barrier-free facility can be accessed via tram lines 9, 13 and 4, and via bus lines 64, 70 and 80.

## Capacities

Our after-school care facility has space for 336 school children aged six to ten, and also offers six integration placements. In the afternoon, the twelve classes form twelve after-school care groups, each with an educational specialist as a parental figure.

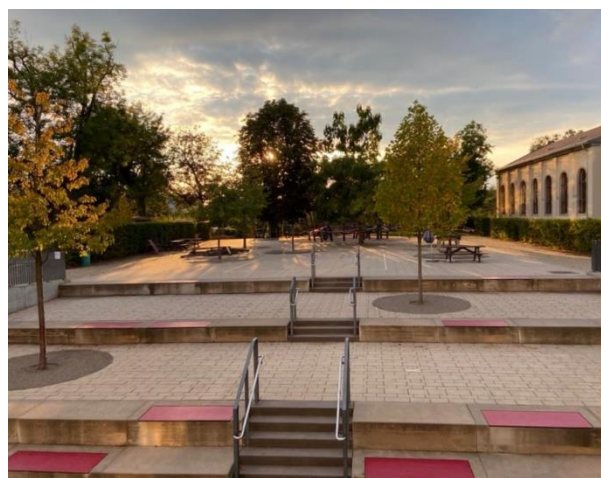
## Spaces and outdoor areas

A full renovation in 2011 saw extensions added to the school building and gymnasium, creating new spaces for the children. The after-school care facility has access to the entire school building, gymnasium and school yard. The children enjoy using the various spaces, such as those listed below, for open afternoon activities or group days:

- Rainbow room
- Games room
- Wet and dry workshops
- Relaxation room
- Children's kitchen
- Media room
- Library
- Gymnasium

The dual purpose of school and after-school care facility means the children can use the spaces for their own individual interests and needs throughout the entire day.

The themed rooms are seen as educational spaces and development aids that we co-create with the girls and boys at our facility.



School yard

In the basement are our workshops, as well as the relaxation and rainbow rooms, while the ground floor is home to our games rooms. Our school library is housed on the second floor, giving the children access to a wide range of books. Volunteers help us with the loans process. The outdoor grounds and gymnasium provide a number of opportunities for playing and exercise, with a climbing tower, table-tennis table, seating clusters, a sandpit, football field and our school garden.



Relaxation room





Workshop 1



Workshop 2



Relaxation room



Rainbow room

## Opening hours

Our facility is open from 6am to 5.30pm. These hours are based on parents' needs, and are polled annually.

## Closing times

The facility remains closed between Christmas and New Year, and on three other days for staff training. Parents are informed of the closure days

with adequate notice. Substitute care can be arranged at other facilities if necessary.

## Food suppliers

The food is supplied by Menüpartner GmbH, which is contracted by the school. It is served as a buffet, enabling the children to put their meal together independently. There are also two vitamin counters that serve fresh fruit and vegetables daily. The children have a long lunch break between 11:15am and 12:15pm, so that they can eat their meal at leisure. This is supervised by the facility staff.

## Educational concept

Our facility staff observe and assist the children in their individual stages of development. We see the children as independent personalities. For us, the child is 'the agent of themselves', and the educators are their 'co-designers'. Through varied interactions between children and staff in everyday life, we create a trustworthy basis and comfortable atmosphere. We are contacts and confidants who help the children develop their independence and various social skills.

## Educational focuses

- We make reference to the children's living environment (situational approach)
- We embrace diversity
- A focus on participation
- A partnership approach to child-raising is very important
- We are communicative, and plan openly
- We live and learn both in mixed-age groups and as a class
- Working as a community

## Group and space structures

There are currently 12 same-age groups, each attended to by one educator. The open approach adopted in the afternoons gives the children the opportunity to also build a trustworthy relationship with other staff. For example, they can go into various themed rooms and experience these in a hands-on manner as they wish. As they play, the children pursue their own interests and develop their skills at their own pace.

## Working with the school

The 'Educate together – primary school and after-school care facility in dialogue' framework programme provides the basis for our co-operation with the 41. Grundschule. The quality standards introduced by the programme lay the foundations for the educational co-operation between the primary school and after-school care facility. The co-operative agreement is reviewed and assessed annually. We have common house rules and a common general hygiene plan.

Teachers and child-care workers work closely together, conducting joint parent talks and parent evenings, and organising festivities, such as the summer festival and Christmas market. The facility staff also assist with class excursions.

Every year, there is at least one highlight shared by the after-school care facility and school (circus project, excursion to Einsiedel or a joint trip to the theatre).

## Working with parents

We see the families as our most important partner for child-raising and co-operations, because they are their children's most important partners when it comes to upbringing and education.

As such, we consider it crucial to maintain a close partnership for child-raising, based on transparency, equality and friendliness. This can only be achieved through dialogue as part of:

- Developmental talks
- Crisis talks
- Informal doorway/corridor talks

We also act as an interface between external institutions, and are on hand at all times as contacts and assistants.

A parent committee is held with the school, parents and after-school care facility every two months. It involves active discussion, with everyone having a chance to be heard.

## Co-operations

Co-operations and networking between day-care facilities in a social environment are of major importance to us.

Particularly in the transition from primary school to secondary school, we want to show the children what recreational facilities are available to them from grade 5 onwards. As such, we co-operate closely with the 'JIL Kidstreff' and 'Emmers' district centre.

As part of our integration process, we also work closely with the youth and social welfare office, and, if necessary, can arrange contact with the Social Paediatric Centre or parental support centres.

We also maintain a co-operative agreement with our 41. Grundschule primary school and the 'Sternstrasse' kindergarten.

## Applying for a day-care placement

Day-care placements are applied for online via the City of Dresden Parents' Portal at:

<https://kita-anmeldung.dresden.de/>

or via the Main Counselling & Placement Centre at Breitscheidstrasse 78, 01237 Dresden.

## Contacting the facility

If interested in placing your child at our after-school care facility, you may arrange an appointment with manager Sylvia Misiaczyk.

Facility tours are also available upon prior booking.

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Central authorities' switchboard 115 – We love questions

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